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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/566,455	01/30/2006	Shriram Shivanand Pathak	19365103945	5578
7590	05/01/2009		EXAMINER	
Robin W Asher Clark Hill Suite 3500 500 Woodward Avenue Detroit, MI 48226-3435			WUJCIAK, ALFRED J	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3632	
			MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
			05/01/2009	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	<b>Application No.</b> 10/566,455	<b>Applicant(s)</b> PATHAK ET AL.
	<b>Examiner</b> Alfred Joseph Wujciak III	<b>Art Unit</b> 3632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED. (35 U.S.C. § 133).

Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 18 February 2009.  
 2a) This action is FINAL.      2b) This action is non-final.  
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1 and 4-9 is/are pending in the application.  
 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
 5) Claim(s) 1,4-7 and 9 is/are allowed.  
 6) Claim(s) 8 is/are rejected.  
 7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
 8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 30 January 2006 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
 a) All    b) Some \* c) None of:  
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

This is the final Office Action for the serial number 10/566,455, VEHICLE SEAT ASSEMBLY AND FLOOR RAIL FOR LATERAL SEAT SHUTTLING, filed on 1/30/06.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless —

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent # 5,743,596 to Chabanne.

Chabanne teaches an assembly comprising a front latch mechanism having a support plate (7) and a rear latch mechanism having a mounting plate (21a) and a pair of opposing front (19) and rear (21b) latch plates independently pivotally coupled to the mounting plate. Each of the pair of opposing front and rear latch plates selectively engage the rear slide rail. The assembly includes a release cam member (27) operatively coupled between the pair of opposing front and rear latch plates.

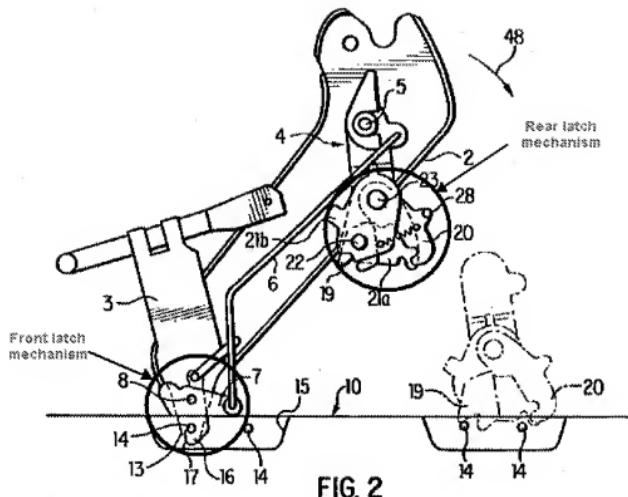


FIG. 2

*Allowable Subject Matter*

Claims 1, 4-7 and 9 are allowed.

*Response to Arguments*

Applicant's arguments filed 2/18/09 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

The applicant states "The '596 reference does not disclose a pair of opposing front and rear latch plates independently pivotally coupled to a mounting plate, as specifically required by claim 8 in the above captioned application." The examiner disagrees with the applicant because '596 reference shows a pair of opposing front (19) and rear (21b) latch plates independently

pivotsly coupled to a mounting plate (21a). The specification in '596 reference, column 2, lines 66-67, states "the front catch 19 is articulated about a pin 22" and column 3, lines states "21b is mounted articulated on the pin." The mounting plate 21a provides pins (22-23) for the front (19) and rear (21b) latch plates to pivot independently on the mounting plate.

The applicant states "Further, the '596 reference does not disclose a release cam member operatively coupled between a pair of opposing front and rear latch plates for simultaneously engaging and pivotsly releasing the pair of opposing front and rear latch plates from engagement with a rear slide rail, as specifically required by claim 8 of the above-captioned application." The examiner disagrees with the applicant because the release cam member is located in between the opposing front and rear latch plates and the cam member engages the front latch plate which engages the rear latch plate by spring (column 3, lines 20-33). The front latch plate with spring connected to the rear latch plate has the ability to control the rear latch plate once the cam moves the front latch plate. Therefore the cam has the ability to move both front and rear latch plates.

### *Conclusion*

**THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period

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will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alfred Joseph Wujciak III whose telephone number is (571) 272-6827. The examiner can normally be reached on 8am-4:30pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, J. Allen Shriver can be reached on 571-272-6698. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Alfred Joseph Wujciak III/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 3632  
4/29/09